

protection to all its members that the alliance and strategic frontiers could be disregarded.

Unanimity Also Opposed.

It represents the viewpoint now general here that the legal effect of the Wilson covenant can do no more than make a little less likely. Underlying the plan to form alliances also is the failure of France to induce President Wilson and Lord Robert Cecil to accept the scheme of Leon Bourgeois, the French ambassador to the League of Nations, for an armed force at the disposal of the league, or at least for an international general staff. Beyond all this was the requirement of unanimity in the executive council, which, in France's opinion, made it impossible to get action quickly enough to save a war.

Even in American circles it is pointed out that the covenant in no wise forces alliances, provided that they are purely defensive in character. What the covenant does provide, in Article XXV, is that no international obligation shall be inconsistent with the terms of the covenant. American opinion is that nothing in a defensive alliance is inconsistent with the covenant and they go so far now as to predict that probably several such alliances will be formed. President Wilson's first point also is met inasmuch as it is demanded only that such engagements shall be public.

Invariably Have Bred Wars.

But the danger seen by many diplomats, who frankly confess their surprise and disappointment that the League of Nations has proved so chimerical, is that an alliance which may be outwardly defensive may be through its inner workings really aggressive. Every alliance, even the Triple Alliance, always was described as defensive, but invariably they have bred wars.

The outstanding fact here in the last few days is the fact that France and Belgium see a common danger of a German resurgence in which Great Britain and America do not share. The French also make no concealment of their desire to have a Polish policy of their own, differing from that of Premier Lloyd George and President Wilson. The French seek to constitute the strongest possible Polish state as a bulwark against Germany on the east. An alliance between Poland and France, therefore, is practically in the making.

Italy and France now are very close together in their viewpoint, both taking the same view of the impotency of the league, according to the diplomats of both. Belgium's partnership is more uncertain, as the country is still waiting the approval of Great Britain, whose coast is opposite hers.

League Amendments Up To-day.

Thus after indulging for a while in a great dream diplomats here now appear to have reverted to old fashioned plans for world peace, such as the Monroe Doctrine and Japanese equality amendments will be definitely determined tomorrow.

All doubt of the accord in which Premier Lloyd George and President Wilson are working is now being pushed up to the limit. The latest reparations plan, which is of a highly indefinite character, is an example of what is to be expected. It is likely that the treaty will be dealt with in the same manner, except those of Germany. To get a treaty which will be some chance that Germany will sign appears to be the ruling motive.

Compromise With Bolsheviks.

The greatest significance is attached everywhere to the signing of the Genoa Smuta to Hungary to deal directly with the Soviet Government there. The significance lies in the fact that it affords a partial proof that President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George in accord have definitely decided upon a policy of compromise with Bolshevikism, at least in its milder forms, and second, that it represents another victory for them over the French military party, distrust of which the two have had in common for some time, together with a resolve to curb it, come what may.

It developed to-day that when Gen. Smuta left Tuesday for Budapest he took with him two British experts on the military plan, the idea being that the Hungarian Soviet Government might not be so bad after all and that the proper thing for the associated powers to do was to explain to the Gen. Smuta that the Rumanian boundary decision was only tentative, however Col. Vix may have described it in his ultimatum. The Hungarian suggestions as to a proper settlement.

This plan is the joint work of President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George, to which they have compared the acquiescence of Premier Clemenceau through the pressure which the two always can exert when they work together. When the Hungarian revolution administered a rude shock to the conference it found the President and the British Prime Minister still without a plan of dealing with Bolshevikism, while the French always were strong for using force at once along the entire Bolshevik front.

Will Invite Suggestions.

It is admitted in high diplomatic circles to-day that the change was due to a decision to substitute negotiation for the military plan, the idea being that the Hungarian Soviet Government might not be so bad after all and that the proper thing for the associated powers to do was to explain to the Gen. Smuta that the Rumanian boundary decision was only tentative, however Col. Vix may have described it in his ultimatum. The Hungarian suggestions as to a proper settlement.

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Mild Form of Bolshevikism.

Meanwhile, however, President Wilson and Premier Lloyd George decided upon a compromise. In defense of the British Prime Minister's position, it is explained now in British circles that the confidential reports have shown the Hungarian Government differs materially from that of Lenin in Russia, being a mild form of Bolshevikism, and in regard to Rumania, the conditions are not the same. Reports to the British Premier have been to the effect that the southern Rumanian army is filled with the spirit of Bolshevikism, and that a nationalistic feeling, a desire to preserve Rumania for the Russians and to drive out the forces of occupation merely as invaders.

The cardinal point of the Lloyd George-Wilson policy now appears to be that so long as there is any semblance of stability in the Soviet Government, it would be wrong to make war upon them and that it is not the business of the associated powers to tell either Russia or Hungary what form of government they shall have. Apparently they will

communicate this to the Hungarians, who in turn probably will transmit it to Lenin.

What has caused amazement here and another cause of development in the French newspapers is that this was decided upon after the Hungarian revolutionists had thrown out all the allied mission and to all appearances in open alliance with Lenin for the spread of Bolshevikism in its militant forms. St. Brice, in an article in *Le Journal*, which is typical of many, says:

"The immediate choice of Gen. Mangin would have signified a resolution to take clean cut action. It would have been a strategic move, a bold move, pushed with the proverbial vigor of the former lieutenant of Marchand. Gen. Smuta is of an entirely different temper. Although this South African participated in the Boer war and conducted brilliantly the conquest of German East Africa in 1916 his temperament is that of the lawyer and statesman more than of the soldier. He is one of the champions of a future era, the author of a draft which served as the basis of the League of Nations, the constitution of the League of Nations."

The article also refers to Gen. Smuta's abortive negotiations with Count P. P. Smuta, formerly in Switzerland concerning a separate peace with Austria and adds: "The precedent is not perhaps very encouraging for the new mission of Gen. Smuta, but it is at least a step in the right direction. It is a step in the right direction, but it is at least a step in the right direction."

Bullitt Report Is Withheld.

There is great interest here in the report now being made by Mr. Bullitt, American ambassador to Paris, on his new plan for Hungary. It is stated now that the Bullitt report will not be made public as was previously expected. The reason given is that it is before the council. Naturally, this report takes a tolerant position toward the Bolsheviks, pointing out the stability of the Soviet Government and the economic help and his offer of concessions all seem to be in line with the latest policy.

Viewed in its general aspects, it is impossible to minimize the significance of the defeat administered again to the French military chiefs, whose policy of suppression of the League of Nations and America do not share. The French also make no concealment of their desire to have a Polish policy of their own, differing from that of Premier Lloyd George and President Wilson. The French seek to constitute the strongest possible Polish state as a bulwark against Germany on the east. An alliance between Poland and France, therefore, is practically in the making.

KING ALBERT ASKS SUCCOR FOR BELGIUM

\$2,000,000,000 Loan to Redeem Marks Needed.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, April 4.—Belgium's case has been laid before the Peace Conference by the most distinguished advocate Belgium could have chosen. King Albert has been in Paris for three days, and in numerous conferences with representatives of the great powers he has outlined the needs of his country and told them of the steps that must be taken immediately if Belgium is to be restored.

King Albert has had long conversations with President Wilson, Premier Clemenceau and David Lloyd George. These conversations led up to his appearance before the Council of Four to-day.

A member of the Belgian peace delegation told the Associated Press to-day that, short of all its diplomatic niceties, what King Albert told the council might be summarized thus:

The time of promises has passed. If Belgium is to live the council must act.

\$2,000,000,000 Loan Needed.

The Associated Press is able to state that three questions of vital importance to the reestablishment of Belgium, financially, economically and politically, were discussed. The first question was the immediate advance to Belgium of about ten billion francs, the second, the exportation to Belgium from England and the United States of raw materials, and the third the cession to Belgium of the left bank of L'Escaut River and the Lemberg peninsula.

The first item represents the value of German marks left in circulation in Belgium. After the departure of the Germans the Ministry of Finance sent out an urgent call to holders of the marks to deposit them in the bank. The amount was estimated to be about two billion (\$400,000,000), and it had been the Government's intention to redeem them at the par value of one franc 25 centimes.

Belgium was not prepared for the avalanche of marks that resulted. Eight billion marks (\$1,600,000,000) passed through the hands of the Belgian population. The banks were unable to redeem this amount of paper, and depositors merely received receipts, stating that a certain amount of marks were held to their credit until such time as financial arrangements could be made to reimburse them.

The payment of an immediate indemnity by Germany was relied upon to enable repayment for these deposits. The indemnity thus far has failed to materialize. Depositors cannot draw against these credits, which are now worth ten billions of francs are idle, as the banks are paying no interest on such deposits.

The importation of raw materials is said to be indispensable to the reestablishment of Belgium from the economic standpoint.

Danes Ask for Plebiscite.

A delegation of Danes from the region south of the contemplated Schleswig-Holstein tentative boundary line has arrived in Paris and has requested that a plebiscite be held to determine the status of the Danes in the district in question. The members of the delegation claim that their arguments were not heard when the boundary commission was summoned to consider the matter.

The proposed limitation of German armaments has at present for the Danes largely an academic interest, as the dependable forces which the State and private enterprise have been able to raise by an increase in advertising, and offers of good pay and bonuses to volunteers do not reach the lowest figure mentioned in reports as to the size of the army which Germany has been able to maintain about even the proposed popular militia on the Swiss model.

An exception to the general Socialist attitude, however, is furnished by the Socialist War Minister, Gustav Noske, who has expressed the opinion that in case of an unfavorable peace, which he anticipates, the army must be quickly reformed to a state of the highest efficiency for a new war.

A beginning should be made, in the belief of Herr Noske, with the development of the militia and army side by side, with which should go a campaign for the hardening and strengthening of the people by all sorts of school courses, so as to give the coming generation

more time out of doors and the encouragement of open air exercises and sports. Then, in case the time should come when a new army must be raised and a new war come, the material for the new army would be better than that of the old.

Qualifies His Attitude.

Herr Noske, who expressed these views to German newspaper men in explaining and defending the bill for a provisional army introduced at Weimar, qualified his attitude by expressing the hope that some form of a League of Nations in which Germany would have an equal right and footing would ultimately be evolved and some arrangements for disarmament would be reached with which the Germans could be content and which would obviate the necessity of a new measure. He said that in this case the proposed measure to develop a hardy outdoor race would make the Germans more efficient for peaceful results than their rivals.

However, France took Alsace-Lorraine temporarily, said Herr Noske, adding that he used the word "temporarily" intentionally—a reaction against the necessity of a new measure, which would be reached with which the Germans could be content and which would obviate the necessity of a new measure. He said that in this case the proposed measure to develop a hardy outdoor race would make the Germans more efficient for peaceful results than their rivals.

Not Shared by Compatriots.

It is only fair to reiterate that Herr Noske's hopes and views, as far as Germany is concerned, are far from shared by the great masses of his compatriots, notably the Socialists. The idea of a big army or a resumption of the military tradition, which was the basis of the Swiss plan being at the present time repulsive to the average German in the midst of the morning "moral kaiserschmerz" over militarism.

The views of Herr Noske with regard to a future correction of the Alsace-Lorraine settlement also do not correspond with the prevailing German sentiment, which, while it calls for a plebiscite, is preliminary to disannexation of the provinces, believes that such a plebiscite would be a loss of Germany to the loss of the provinces.

ALBERT GETS ACTION ON NATION'S CLAIMS

Visit of King to Paris Has Effect on Conference.

By G. S. ADAM.

Special Cable to The Sun from the London Times Service.

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PARIS, April 4.—King Albert, by his visit to Paris in drawing fuller attention to the claims of Belgium to reparations and security than they have so far received. Until three days ago Belgium had not been represented at the meetings at which the peace terms are being decided.

Of the two commissions by which Belgium's claims have been considered, the one that has been appointed to deal with Belgian frontiers has not given any definite satisfaction to Belgian hopes. The other commission on reparations has not presented a report, and it is understood the Council of Four has begun to approach the question of distribution of the reparations to be enacted from Germany without waiting for the opinion of experts.

The report of the reparations commission, though not yet complete, is well advanced. The commission is determined not to attempt to grapple with the interminable question of what Germany can pay, but is contenting itself with attempting to establish the total amount of Germany's debt to the Allies and deciding to treat two annual payments to be made by her.

Subsequent instalments will be settled as time goes on by a commission more or less permanent in character, which will investigate German assets as they develop under peace conditions and recommend what she shall pay each year.

In this connection the estimate of German wealth involves the study of German property, security and other assets in neutral countries.

An allied sub-committee will shortly have had complete access to the financial records of Germany, and the German capital is very largely involved. To see how the sources of German prosperity in these countries can best be tapped by the Allies.

KRUPP MEN STRIKE, FRANKFORT IS QUIET

Situation Grows Worse in the Ruhr District Where 110,000 Quit Work.

FEW MINES ARE WORKING

Military Authorities Disarm Regiment Infected With Spartan Ideas.

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, April 3 (delayed).—A general strike has been begun at the Krupp works, where the employees cannot agree with the employers on the question of wages, according to a report from Essen. The men declare they will stay out until their demands have been conceded.

From Frankfurt comes word that the situation has quieted down. An investigation of the damage done shows that vast quantities of valuable legal papers were burned and the archives destroyed. A house to house search resulted in the recovery of large quantities of stolen goods.

The Government of Wurttemberg has announced that the strike in that section of Germany suddenly has collapsed, according to a telegram from Stuttgart, and that therefore, requested bourgeois counter strikers to resume work.

Farmers joined in the counter strike, and Stuttgart was consequently almost without milk to-day, receiving only eight litres instead of 8,000, the usual amount.

Eight thousand striking workmen at Duisburg, Rhineish Prussia, have refused to resume their labor until an adequate food supply has been provided.

The military authorities to-day began disarming the Emperor's Augusta Regiment, which had become infected with Spartan ideas. Up to 3:30 o'clock the disarming had proceeded without incident, the troops then being ordered to disarm the regiment.

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Continued from First Page.

Admiral Grayson, the President's physician, reached the conclusion that the President is not suffering from influenza, but that the severity of the cold is such that the patient will require careful watching.

Since his return the President's work has been enormous and he has been unable to obtain more than an occasional walk at odd intervals either with Mr. Wilson or Rear Admiral Grayson. Golf has been dropped from his schedule, and an automobile ride now and then about the grounds is the President's only form of recreation, supplementing the short walks.

Rear Admiral Grayson has been constantly on the alert watching the President for the most part consists of a bed and a bath, and a light entrance. The American executive, however, is sick enough to make him not care to read. He appears to be quite content to rest and sleeps lightly from time to time.

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The reparations of losses to the civilian population will constitute a very considerable proportion of the bill, approximately 600,000,000, the amount of the reparations bill as now approximately estimated. In the case of Great Britain the pension bill will probably constitute the largest item of the total claim. It is understood that the United States will not lodge any claim under this head. Americans being covered by the American soldiers' insurance system.

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German General, in Book, Says Allied Victory Near Albert Was Decisive.

GIVES DETAILS OF EVENTS

Wilson Notes Kept Him Commuting Between the Front and Berlin.

By the Associated Press.

BERLIN, April 4.—One of the Berlin newspapers to-day prints extracts from the forthcoming book written by Gen. Ludendorff, former First Quartermaster-General of the German army.

Gen. Ludendorff says the defeat of the Germans on August 8 (in the Franco-British offensive near Albert and north of Montdidier) finally resulted in the losing of hope by the Germans for a military victory.

Conferences were held with Chancellor von Hertling, Admiral von Hintze, the Foreign Minister, and Field Marshal von Hindenburg on August 14, 15 and 16, and there also was a meeting of the Crown Council, "at which I clearly stated that the war could no longer be won militarily," says Ludendorff.

At the beginning of September the Supreme Army Command again invited von Hertling and von Hintze to Spa, where Ludendorff addressed himself from attending on account of his advanced age. In these discussions the situation on the western front was again discussed as very grave, according to Ludendorff.

Wilson Is in Bed WITH SEVERE COLD

Continued from First Page.

Admiral Grayson, the President's physician, reached the conclusion that the President is not suffering from influenza, but that the severity of the cold is such that the patient will require careful watching.

Since his return the President's work has been enormous and he has been unable to obtain more than an occasional walk at odd intervals either with Mr. Wilson or Rear Admiral Grayson. Golf has been dropped from his schedule, and an automobile ride now and then about the grounds is the President's only form of recreation, supplementing the short walks.

Rear Admiral Grayson has been constantly on the alert watching the President for the most part consists of a bed and a bath, and a light entrance. The American executive, however, is sick enough to make him not care to read. He appears to be quite content to rest and sleeps lightly from time to time.

After the forenoon session of the Supreme Council to-day the members departing renewed their wishes for the rapid recovery of the President. Representatives of other Governments sent solicitous inquiries to the "White House" regarding the President's condition.

When King Albert of the Belgians talked with the President yesterday the President appeared to be well. The President himself did not appear to feel a warning of the approaching illness.

Development of the Cold.

It was during the latter part of his meeting with Premier Clemenceau and Lloyd George that the cold developed. The President's voice began to grow husky enough to cause comment from the while in the room.

The military situation was unchanged. In the west, however, there was a consolidation and this circumstance, in conjunction with the declaration to clearly showed that President Wilson no longer had the power to oppose the Entente's demands. For the reply to the note the Chancellor again invited to Berlin.

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SHIPS NEEDED FOR FOOD FOR GERMANY

Allies May Be Unable to Keep Full Agreement.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, April 4.—The food difficulties in Germany were by no means solved by the signing of the food agreement. Tonnage is unavailable to move the required supplies, and the available grain stocks are so short that it probably will be impossible to furnish the full amount specified in the agreement for some time.

Herbert Hoover, director-general of the Inter-Allied Relief Organization, estimates that he can furnish Germany 100,000 tons of grain during the month of April, but if the German estimates that the German grain and potato stocks will be exhausted before June are correct, Mr. Hoover expressed the belief that it is questionable whether food enough can be supplied to tide Germany over until the next harvest, particularly as German ships in which the bulk of the food must be transported cannot land cargoes in Germany inside of six weeks.

NAME ARMOURS IN PARIS TRIAL

Americans Falsely Reported in 1915 as Buyers of "Le Journal."

PARIS, April 4.—At the continuation to-day of the court-martial trial of Senator Charles Humbert on a charge of having had complete access to the financial records of Germany, the defendant, Henry Lenoir, was asked why, in June, 1915, he had told Capt. Georges Ladoix, another defendant, that the funds of the Social Democratic Party had been supplied by the Armours.

Lenoir replied that he was endeavoring to place American securities in France, especially those of the Armours, and that possibly Ladoix was confused as to the two transactions. Capt. Ladoix made a protest against this statement, declaring that the Armours had been supplied by the Armours.

PLEDGES BRITAIN TO STAND BY FRANCE

Lloyd George Says Absolute Security Is Assured.

PARIS, April 4.—Premier Lloyd George of Great Britain, in a statement printed to-day in the *Petit Parisien*, denies the report generally prevalent that he is an abject opponent of the guarantees given by France against a renewed attack by Germany.

"Disensions," the Premier asked, "do you seriously think they can ever exist between our two countries?"

"There has been some discussion, but it is not from sincere discussion that a final agreement must emerge between France and England? Our understanding has remained complete and absolute. Englishmen did not come to fight by the side of the French to give their country merely relative security during a limited period. No, they mean France to have absolute security in the future."

"You know what sacrifices England has made and you know well that England does not regret them. She is ready to make fresh ones if it becomes necessary to guarantee the peace and independence of France."

"I have seen the courage of war twice looked on France by Germany. We do not intend that there shall be a third time. We intend it to be years hence France again will find England by her side with all her wealth and power, for mark well my words—the will be with us."

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GERMANY MUST PAY ALLIES' PENSIONS

U. S. Decides Not to Make Claim.

By the Associated Press.

PARIS, April 4.—Pensions to disabled soldiers and for widows and orphans will be included in the bill to Germany for reparations. The Peace Conference leaders have decided that such relief to individuals for losses and sufferings during the war will be a proper charge under the armistice provisions.

The reparations of losses to the civilian population will constitute a very considerable proportion of the bill, approximately 600,000,000, the amount of the reparations bill as now approximately estimated. In the case of Great Britain the pension bill will probably constitute the largest item of the total claim. It is understood that the United States will not lodge any claim under this head. Americans being covered by the American soldiers' insurance system.

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